

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on August 28, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 6-15 without prejudice and amended claim 16. Claim 16 is the sole independent claim, and claims 16 and 17 are pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 16 and 17 were objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 16 has now been so rewritten, and claim 17 depends therefrom. Consequently, claims 16 and 17 are allowable.

Claims 6-15 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over *Gale et al.* (US 5,605,489) in view of *Litvak* (US 6,413,147 B1) and *Li et al.* (US 5,659,492). It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is moot, as the rejected claims have been cancelled.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



November 22, 2006
Date

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